

Madam Speaker, we cannot deny Haiti this opportunity to help stabilize its economy, recover from devastating natural disasters, rebuild its political and economic institutions, and provide a future of hope for Haiti's people.

I ask my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT AND FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act.

This very simple bill creates a comprehensive information process to notify American consumers about food and product recalls. It seems that practically every week there is another product or food recall, but there's no single, comprehensive, federal resource to relay this information to consumers. As a result, many Americans are rightfully concerned and confused about what products might endanger the lives of their loved ones.

In the 110th Congress after a steady stream of countless food and product recalls, I co-chaired a Ways and Means joint Oversight and Trade subcommittee hearing on Import Safety. In that hearing, we learned that there is no collective federal public information process to inform Americans about food and product safety recalls. Instead there is an expectation that press releases and Internet announcements with moderate outreach efforts are sufficient communication tools.

This legislation is not about creating a new bureaucracy; the sole purpose is to establish a process. We must provide consumers with single resources—through various media phone, print, Internet, and radio—to learn exactly what toys are safe for their children, what food is safe to eat, what beds are safe to sleep in, and what medicines won't compromise their health. The Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act of 2009 presents a clear plan to relay accurate and timely information to all consumers—regardless of age, income or location.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this basic, common-sense legislation. I want to make sure that my constituents—parents, senior citizens, those who have access to the Internet, those who prefer newspapers and libraries—are provided with universal, consistent information about what foods and products are harmful to themselves and their loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to state that I was on an official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on account

of the funeral of a close personal friend and unable to vote on rollcall votes Nos. 548 through 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Nos. 548 through 551, 554 through 569, and 572, and "nay" on Nos. 552, 553, 570, and 571.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards on earmarks, I submit the following information regarding a project included at my request in H.R. 3183, the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman JIM JORDAN (OH-04) Bill: H.R. 3183

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 205 (Flood Damage Reduction)

Requesting entity: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207)

Description: The City of Findlay, Ohio, saw three of its worst floods in history in just a 13-month period in 2007–08. These floods devastated the city, causing significant damage to the downtown business district and displacing hundreds of residents. The Army Corps of Engineers has worked diligently since the January 2007 flood toward developing flood damage reduction plans. I requested \$248,000 to complete the Section 205 feasibility study and begin design and implementation work.

I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

NORTH BEND

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City North Bend, Washington, for reaching its centennial year in 2009.

North Bend, located in the north end of the Eighth District of Washington State, is beautifully situated near the entrance of the Cascade Mountains with majestic Mount Si providing a stunning backdrop. Residents and tourists of all ages enjoy the many outdoor activities this natural, rural setting has to offer, including skiing, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing and swimming. The residents of North Bend are truly caring people who will continue to lead North Bend in protecting their unique rural setting while encouraging residential and business development. I commend Mayor Ken Hearing for his leadership of this town of 4,700.

The Eighth District is a more vibrant area because of North Bend and I rise today to commend the citizens past and present on their success in reaching this milestone.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday July 15, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3183) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I join my colleagues in opposition to the Flake Amendment to H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2010.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I believe it is our duty to work with our colleagues across the aisle in crafting a bill that helps our country in times of economic peril. In a political climate where energy sources and technology have become a central focal point, we must do everything in our power to do what is in the best interest of the constituents in our respective districts, and indeed, the nation as well. This amendment, however, is not in the best interest of our constituents.

The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (CPBR), Inc., which is based in the State of Georgia, is an organization which specializes in the transfer of plant biotechnologies from the research laboratory to the marketplace, and in the process, provides expanded economic opportunities through university research. CPBR's research programs and activities are undertaken cooperatively with major colleges and universities around the nation, including Albany State University, which is located in my Congressional district.

In its short history, the CPBR has produced over 2.5 U.S. Patents with every \$1 million dollars of federal funding provided. Through CPBR, every federal dollar is matched at a rate of 130% with non-federal funds. Additionally, the organization has a commercialization rate on successful projects which is over 210% higher than what universities get on their own.

The amendment offered by Congressman FLAKE frankly represents a gross lack of judgment, particularly given the enormous benefits we are continuing to gain as a result of the CPBR's research activities and tangible results being put in practice.

The CPBR has successfully worked with a number of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) through its HBCU and Minority Institutions Research Fellowship Program. This program provides peer reviewed projects at these colleges and universities which, has in turn, sparked development and growth between the faculty and students.

This also broadens its interaction with its private sector partners, who work closely with the CPBR and its researchers, to carry out the transfer research and technology into the production of new and improved agricultural and manufacturing processes and products. Keep in mind, these are new products which were created and developed by students and researchers at Universities around the country.

These industrial innovations create thousands of new jobs and strengthen our national

economy. One example of CPBR's research is the current use of *Miscanthus* as a feedstock for bio-ethanol and other industrial chemicals—a discovery which is currently used to reduce pollution from petroleum-based products throughout the energy industry. This is a clear example of the contributions which this group has made in moving our nation toward energy independence and improved technological efficiency.

We are all aware that advancing energy technology is one of the most important issues we face today. It is an issue that many feel very passionate about and affects the pockets of all of us and our constituents.

So it is essential that we continue to support activities of worthy organizations such as CPBR.

Mr. Chair, in closing, the enormity and size of the challenges facing communities impacted by the energy crisis is overwhelming. Funding for the work of the CPBR is worthy of continuation, and I would urge my colleagues to oppose the Flake amendment.

HONORING TEXAS COACH NEAL QUILLIN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, every day America's youth are guided, counseled and taught life lessons by their school coaches. These kids learn what it means to persevere through the tough times and the difference between right and wrong from these revered advisors.

Coach Neal Quillin is one such coach. He has any been a pillar of the Houston area community for years and has pushed many young men and women to be the best and never take losing for an answer. A true Texan Hero, Coach Quillin grew up in the Lone Star State and received his BA and Masters from Stephen F. Austin University. He has a list of honors and awards that any coach would dream of including a 4A State Football Championship, multiple state football tournament appearances, and has won 11 district championships. He has received the honor of Coach of the year multiple times by the Houston Chronicle, the Houston Post, and the Houston Touchdown Club. The most outstanding thing about this man is not his own accomplishments—it is what he has done for his players and students. Coach Quillin has coached ten NFL players and has served as a mentor to Texas' students for 44 years. Coach Quillin has served 12 Texas schools as a Coach and was at Humble High School for 15 years. He is currently the defensive line coach at Atascocita High School.

Today, July 22, Coach Quillin will receive one of the biggest honors a coach can—he will be inducted into the Texas High School Coaches Association. I would like to congratulate Coach Neal Quillin on his lifetime of community service and thank him for helping to make Texas a great place for students to learn and athletes to excel.

And that's just the way it is.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: Naples to Big Marco Pass
Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3183—the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Corps of Engineers; O&M
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$1,500,000; The Gordon River and Naples Bay flow into Gordon Pass. This is the most significant Pass in the county and supports the commercial fishing, stone crab harvesting, sport fishing and tourism industries. The Pass also supports the County's marinas and is used by residential boaters. Typically, the Pass is dredged every four or five years. It was last dredged in 2002 and needs to be dredged this year because shoaling diminishes the water depth in the channel.

Project Name: Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Caloosahatchee R to Anclote R, Florida

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK, Congressman VERN BUCHANAN, Congressman C.W. BILL YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 3183—the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Corps of Engineers; O&M
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lee County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 2115 Second Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$780,000; This project would provide for maintenance dredging in four areas of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GICW). The areas in need of maintenance dredging include the mouth of Caloosahatchee River (Miserable Mile in Lee County) and the Boca Grande Bayou area (Miller's Marina in Lee County) of the GICW.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that a historic opportunity to unify the island Cyprus was missed on April 24, 2004 when 76 percent of Greek Cypriots in separate simultaneous referenda in both sides of the island rejected the U.N. comprehensive settlement plan, known as the Annan Plan.

After the referenda, the Greek Cypriots became a full member of the European Union,

while the social, economic and political isolation of the Turkish Cypriots still continues despite their affirmative vote in the referenda with a 65 percent majority.

Until the recent change in leadership in South Cyprus in February 2008 the issue was at a virtual standstill; however, in September 2008, Greek Cypriot leader Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat, launched full-fledged negotiations to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem. The negotiations which were revived thanks to the insistence of the Turkish Cypriot side have been welcomed by the international community, including the United States, the European Union and others.

Hopes are high among the international community that a mutually acceptable settlement might be reached. In order to promote the spirit of goodwill generated during the recent meetings, I encourage this body to support the two Cypriot leaders as they work toward reunification.

On July 20th the Turkish Cypriots commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Turkish peace operation which prevented an attempt by Greece to annex the island. Although peace prevails in Cyprus today, the social, economic and political development of the Turkish Cypriots have been restricted for more than four decades.

Despite their continued commitment to achieving a just and lasting settlement that respects the political equality of the two peoples on the island, the Turkish Cypriot people are still waiting for the international community to honor the promises it made to them that their isolation would be lifted.

Madam Speaker, if the process is to move forward toward a lasting settlement it is important that the United States Congress recognize the unwavering commitment of the Turkish Cypriot people to unify the island and encourage the lifting of the isolation.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3170, the FY 10 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act. This bill provides much-needed funding for key financial institutions and many other important priorities, and includes appropriations that will directly benefit my district's economic development.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their leadership on this bill, and particularly Representative JOSÉ SERRANO for his guidance and support for the University of Texas at Brownsville's International Trade Center.

Brownsville's strategic proximity to Mexico and its multiple seaports has endowed it with unique potential for international trade and development that will have far-reaching benefits